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The University Hatchet

VOLUME VI

WASHINGTON, D. C., MARCH 31, 1910.

NUMBER 22

REFORMS SUGGESTED IN STUDENT ACTIVITIES

First of a Series of Articles Dealing With Local Interests.

I. DEBATING

The intense interest which was evidenced only a few years ago in the subject of debating has unfortunately died down, until now it is difficult to secure quorums in the various societies. In 1905, when the trials for the Cincinnati team took place some thirty men appeared to struggle for places. This year, when the trials for the California debate occurred, despite the fact that expenses to that state and back were guaranteed, only twenty-two competed. The Pennsylvania and North Carolina debates of recent years have been the occasion for the same dearth of material and interest.

The lassitude seems to be prevalent throughout the University, in College as well as Law, and the situation has reached such a stage that some strong efforts are decidedly necessary if debating is to remain among the student interests at George Washington.

Various remedies have been suggested and some have been tried, but the main cause for diminution of enthusiasm has not been sufficiently appreciated, and as a result the remedies had no effect. The pressure under which the majority of the students at the University seem to labor leaves them little opportunity to indulge in such mental exercise, even where the inclination is evident. We believe the most effective, and in fact practically the only way to rehabilitate debating is to incorporate its study in the curriculum of the University.

Two plans are open, either of which could be adopted, or both of which might be employed. The first suggestion is to give collegiate credit for work in debating—that is, to rank debating as a study and give credit for its perusal. It would be eminently practicable, for instance, to give one point each year to such men as attend three-fourths of the society meetings, such meetings to be held each week and said attendance to be attested by the secretary upon oath. A man who

(Continued on Page 5.)

PRIZES OFFERED IN LAW SCHOOL

Scholarship Substituted for Money Prize to the Seniors

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

The Law Faculty have announced a prize scholarship in the Law School, known as "The Ordranax Prize Scholarship," the terms of which are fully stated in the following resolution passed by the faculty:

"Resolved, That in accordance with action taken by the Board of Trustees, there shall be substituted for the University prizes of \$40, \$30 and \$20 in cash heretofore offered, a prize scholarship to be known as "The Ordranax Prize Scholarship," to be awarded to that member of the Second-Year Class taking the regular course, whether forenoon or afternoon, who shall during his first and second years have attained the highest average grade. In determining the average grade of contestants the grade receiving in each subject shall be multiplied by the number of hours given to such subject and the sum of the results divided by the total number of hours. The recipient of this prize scholarship shall be entitled to receive credit for all tuition fees in his third year. Library and diploma fees will remain payable.

"The award of this scholarship is purely personal and will not be commuted to a cash payment, nor will it be transferable. The recipient of the scholarship shall be entitled to make use of the scholarship during the session next succeeding its award, or during any session thereafter."

This action gives the prize to the Second-Year Class instead of the Third-Year Class. The experience of the faculty has been that only a very small number have competed for the cash prizes, last June only one essay being submitted. Therefore, the faculty this year have decided to make use of the money available for these prizes in the award of a scholarship to a member of the Second-Year Class. This change will meet with the approval, we believe, of every law student, for it does not require additional work in order to make one a contestant for the prize, which has undoubtedly

(Continued on Page 4.)

DATE FOR BANQUET CHANGED TO APRIL 22

Ex-Commissioner Macfarland to Preside as Toastmaster.

UNIQUE SOUVENIR

The banquet which is to be given by the student and the alumni of the Law School in honor of Dean William R. Vance, will take place Friday, April 22, at Rauscher's. This date has been agreed upon by the committee after it was found that April 30 was not practicable.

The list of toasts is now in preparation. Former Commissioner Macfarland, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University, and a close personal friend of Dean Vance, has been chosen as toastmaster, and the speakers will be chosen from among those prominent in the legal fraternity in Washington. The committee is arranging for several novel features, among which are the singing of college songs and an elaborate souvenir program. This program, which was designed by Brentano, will be engraved and contain an autographed photograph of Dean Vance.

At the last meeting of the general committee, Messrs. D. H. McLean and Lade D. Webber were appointed as a special committee to select a number of men to lead the college songs and cheering.

In order to obviate an unpleasant difficulty which is ever present at affairs of this kind, it was decided that the order of seating should be by classes, in the order of their seniority. Tickets will be on sale at the Law Building by Mr. Joseph R. Curl and D. A. Baer, or they may be had by mail from Mr. Henry P. DuBois, 1421 Chapin Street Northwest. The price is \$3 per plate.

The committee in charge of the banquet is composed of Messrs. Henry P. DuBois, chairman; Prof. E. G. Lorenzen, D. H. McLean, C. M. Stadden, George B. McClellan, R. D. Micou, B. E. Hinton, E. B. Rhodes, Lyle Hubbard, J. T. Swift, F. F. Ford, R. H. Tilton, W. J. Davis, J. F. Dulles, Birch Helms, D. A. Baer, and R. A. Gamble.

"THE GIRL AND THE PAGE" AT THE BELASCO

Fifth and Sixth of May Selected by Calcium Club Show.

CHORUS INCOMPLETE

All arrangements have been made by the management of the Calcium Club for presenting "The Girl and the Page." A contract has been signed securing the Belasco Theater for the nights of the fifth and sixth of May, while all other details have been provided for, except the selling of tickets. This will be done in the near future. Mr. Scantling has made an agreement with the Junior Republic by which the club will receive a large percentage of the net receipts of the first night without sharing any of the expense, this night being given in the interests of the Junior Republic. This goes far to secure the financial success of the production.

The second performance will be given in the interests of the University solely. On this occasion it is hoped that a great part of the student body will be present. Such support is due to the men who are giving their time and their effort to the task of putting before the public a show which will be unsurpassed by any college production which will visit Washington this year. The men who have come out are working hard, and in justice to them the student body should aid them in their endeavors. Impartial judges have decided that there has never been heard in Washington a more tuneful and catchy college score than that which the Calcium Club will present this year. Already the management has received offers from publishing companies for the purpose of purchasing the music of the "Girl and the Page." There is in the playlet, beside the music, an original and appropriate array of pointed wit, knocking, in a friendly way, politics, society and even certain phases of college life at George Washington. The atmosphere is entirely collegiate, and the plot centers around the son of a wealthy governor of a Western state who is undergoing initiation into a college fraternity. One of the pranks played upon him is forcing him to serve as a page in an hotel at a fashionable seaside resort. While acting in

this capacity he falls madly in love with a young and beautiful daughter of a stingy German brewer. The complications arising from this situation are amusing in the extreme. Those who desire to know more about it may do so by attending on the night of the sixth of May or by coming out for a part in either the chorus or the cast.

But one thing is now necessary to insure complete success. That is more men. The contracts have been signed and the show will have to be presented. It is necessary that at least twenty more people come out for the chorus of the club. If those in the University have no sufficient spirit, the management will be forced to go outside for more material. Those who have come out are working well and enjoying themselves at the same time. But these are not enough. You need not be a good singer to be in a chorus of this sort. It is volume and numbers that are wanted. There is much pleasure and no expense for those who are willing to help in this particular. If any one desires to enter, let him present himself on Friday evening in West Hall of the main building.

MODERN GREEK LIFE

Talk by Mr. Davis at Classical Club.

A highly interesting meeting of the Classical Club was held in the Women's Building on Wednesday a week ago, when a goodly, if tardy, attendance gathered to hear the entertaining program promised. Mr. D. R. Covell supplemented his treasurer's report with a clipping on Roman bathing facilities, and Dr. Smith kept the club in a roar by reading some of Wallace Irwin's "Confessions of Nero." Miss Gillespie read a paper on women in the professions in ancient times.

The feature of the evening was a lecture by Mr. H. C. Davis, Secretary of the University, on "Greeks in America." "The Greek," said Mr. Davis, "has always loved his country and has always left it. Impelled by the eternal necessity of obtaining sustenance, from earliest times the Greeks were a colonizing people, and their settlements fringed the entire Mediterranean. Modern Greece in particular deserves consideration, lacking as it does the diversified industry which economists tell us is necessary to prosperity; of the few industries of the country currant-raising is the most important. A few years ago when the French vines were blighted by a parasite, France began to buy Greek currants to make wine, and currant growing thrived. But when the hardier American grape was grafted onto the French the importation of Greek currants ceased and the market for currants declined. The ensuing financial distress was undoubtedly responsible in large

measure for the recent Greek immigration. Previous to 1900 hardly more than eight or ten immigrants came in a year; between 1900 and 1909 from 150,000 to 175,000 a year are the figures.

"The causes for emigration are generally political, religious or economic. Politically, while Greece is tumultuous, conditions are not unsatisfactory. Nevertheless the fact of a foreign dynasty and the dislike of foreign preferment have a tendency to smother patriotism. In regard to religion, the Greeks are very devout. Protestantism, while by no means persecuted, makes little headway. Unlike the Italian, his sworn foe, who tends when away from home to get away from his church, the Greek brings his church with him, and wherever there is any Greek population there is generally a Greek church. The principal reason for emigration is economic; while it is possible to make a living in Greece, it is not possible to make much more.

"The United States government in its efforts to help the Greek immigrants finds its chief obstacle in the padrone system. In the shoe-shining places, where it flourishes, the boys are ill-kept, ill-housed, and ill-fed, and under constant espionage.

"The Greek immigrant is subtle, shrewd and keen. He is fast displacing the Italian, and his only rival is the Jew. He is plodding and industrious. The case of Pericles Antonopoulos was cited as typical. Pericles, a \$30 school-master in Hissaly, disappointed by the outcome of the Turkish war, emigrated, and after serving as cook for the Yale University Club, started a cigar store on his savings and by his famous 'Pyramid' cigarette won a fortune. We are getting the best of the progressive people. In Athens, a city of about 170,000 population, there are ten daily newspapers, a manifestation of the old Hellenic desire for new things. Only about 20 per cent of the Greek immigrants return."

Mr. Davis was followed by a violin solo by Miss Helen Dodge, accompanied by Miss Sutton. Miss Dodge responded to an enthusiastic encore, and refreshments completed a well-spent evening.

A.D. 1942

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—Peter Pinhead, 1910.

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Sigma Phi Epsilon Convention

The bi-annual convention of the Sigma Phi Epsilon literary fraternity was held from Monday to Thursday of the present week at the Raleigh Hotel. The fraternity recently established a chapter at George Washington, taking in the local known as Kappa Sigma Pi, which had been in existence about four years.

The national fraternity is one of the strongest of the younger societies, including at present 26 chapters and 1,200 members. Among the universities represented at the conclave were Pennsylvania, Syracuse, Dartmouth, Virginia, Georgia School of Technology, Lehigh, Washington and Lee, Ohio State, Colorado, Pittsburgh, Richmond College, and George Washington.

The local chapter arranged several affairs for the delegates, including a smoker at the Raleigh, an automobile sight-seeing trip, and a banquet. Among the interesting features of the occasion was a model initiation performed by the local chapter at the smoker.

American Club at London

A number of energetic American university students residing in London have taken active steps towards the formation of an American Universities Club in that city, along the lines of similar clubs in American cities. The object is to afford the university student visiting London an opportunity to meet his American brethren, and to open a home to those who are unacquainted with the city. A number of social features, including a houseboat on the Henley regatta, and special locations for the races have been

arranged, and a commodious house in the heart of London secured. Requisites for admission, dues, etc., can be secured from the Editor of *The Hatchet* by any student who contemplates a visit over the waters in the near future.

Y.W.C.A. Has Its Innings

The George Washington University chapter of the Y.W.C.A. held its annual banquet Saturday evening, March 19, at the Y. W. C. A. Building. A social half-hour was spent before the banquet, when Miss Walker sang several selections and Miss Wilbur played.

At 7:30 the girls went down to the dining hall, which was prettily decorated in jonquils and G.W.U. pennants. The toastmistress of the occasion was Miss Weller, the President of the College Y. W. C. A.

The subjects for the toasts were taken from that well known verse:

"The time has come,"

The walrus said,

"To talk of many things,

Of shoes and ships and sealing-wax,

And cabbages and kings."

Miss Brackett responded to the toast on "Shoes." Her ladyship, Miss Nicholson responded to the toast on "Ships." The Sophomore Class was represented by Miss Geschickter and the "Sealing-Wax." Miss Taylor of the Freshman Class talked of "Cabbages," and Miss Hathaway responded to the toast on "Kings." Miss Ellis then gave her interpretation of the toasts. Miss Brown, the Secretary of the city Y.W.C.A., told of the work they were doing and their plans for the future.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1910.

During the last two weeks a strong effort has been made to designate the McKinley Manual Training School as the District depository for the funds under the Morrill act. The McKinley School is one of the best of its kind in the United States and is worthy of all the legitimate support that can be secured, but the effort to place it on the list of schools under the Morrill benefits is so decidedly impracticable as to warrant only passing notice.

In the first place, the act requires colleges as beneficiaries, and even the wildest stretch of imagination could with difficulty include a high school under the term college. In the second place, if such was granted, Congress would be compelled to expend some \$500,000 in buildings, apparatus, etc., to meet the requisites under the act. Again, if the McKinley School was so designated, the colored high school would likewise be entitled to an equal assistance, and an equal appropriation both in annual funds and in buildings. And there is little reason why the Business High School, or even the academic high

schools such as Western, Eastern and Central and the other negro schools, should not demand and be entitled to a like support.

If the District is granted this annual income to be given to some recognized collegiate institution, Congress must either found and build a separate university, entailing an enormous expenditure, or else grant it to George Washington, which is doing the work required and which is ready and able to carry on the courses necessary. No practicable middle course has yet been suggested.

PRIZES OFFERED

(Continued from Page 1)

been the reason for the dearth of competitors for the cash prizes.

Edward Thompson Co. Prize

The faculty have also announced as the subject for the Edward Thompson Co. Prize the following:

"Discuss the liability of an officer of a corporation, domestic or foreign, with respect to a contract made on behalf of the corporation through the agency of such officer when the contract is unenforceable against the corporation because *ultra vires*."

The conditions of the competition are that:

1. All essays submitted in competition for this prize must be typewritten upon paper or regulation letter size. They must each contain not more than 10,000 nor less than 3,000 words.

2. Each of these essays must be signed with a *nom de plume* and accompanied by a sealed envelope containing the true name of the writer.

3. All essays must be submitted on or before May 15, 1910.

The recipient of the prize will receive from the Edward Thompson Company the choice of one set of the following publications of that company: The Encyclopaedia of Law, first or second edition, or the Encyclopaedia of Pleading and Practice. Any set of these works is worth in the neighborhood of \$225, so that any senior law student will be well repaid for his labor if he is fortunate enough to win this prize.

Ellsworth Prize

A prize of \$25 in gold, offered by Mr. Fritz von Briesen, called the "Ellsworth Prize," is awarded each year at commencement for the best work done in the Patent Law Course by a student receiving the degree of Master of Patent Laws.

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REFORMS SUGGESTED

(Continued from Page 1.)

attended three-fourths of the meetings of any local society, which are conducted upon strict parliamentary lines, and which are most ably managed, would have frequent opportunities to debate and to speak extemporaneous and would acquire, almost unconsciously the undisputed advantages of the art. Debating is a subject which includes English, expression, grammar, in fact so many portions of other subjects that the faculty could well afford to grant this boon to its students. In addition, it could equitably be required that such student should pay dues to the society, half of which should go to the expenses of the society itself and half towards the expenses of intercollegiate debating.

The second plan is not quite so definite in its results. It has been suggested that an instructor be secured whose sole or main duty

shall be the teaching and fostering of debating. He is to have charge of all intercollegiate contests, coach the teams, and possibly in addition give courses in debating. Some years ago courses in the art of public speaking were given by Prof. Veditz, who at the same time was debating coach, but despite the brilliancy of the instructor and his remarkably interesting lectures, so little enthusiasm was shown that the course was discontinued. It is doubtful whether a better instructor or more auspicious circumstances than those under which Prof. Veditz labored could be obtained, but we believe that a combination of the two ideas, giving credit for regular attendance and participation in debates, and the appointment of an instructor to coach debaters would in a short time develop as strong and as enthusiastic followers of the subject as obtained in western universities, where over 100 candidates have been known to appear in the trials for one intercollegiate debate.

The Columbian Debating Society

That the United States should take steps to immediately increase her navy was the verdict of the Columbian Debating Society at its regular meeting on March 18, 1910.

The affirmative was upheld by Messrs. Marcus and Cox, while the negative was defended by Messrs. Smith and Kitselman. The main contention of the affirmative, which seemed to have great weight with the judges, was that

we should be prepared for war regardless of the fact that war might not be imminent. The judges, Messrs. Rogers, LeDuc and Spessard, after awarding the decision to the affirmative, gave first honors to Mr. Cox and second honors to Mr. Kitselman.

The honor men of the society who are to compete for places on the next inter-society team were instructed to select a question for the next inter-society debate and immediately present it to the Needham Society.

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PUBLICATIONS

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The Cherry Tree

Editor—J. F. Seiler.
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Sophomore—J. Luckett.
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Freshman—L. Briggs.

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Needham Debating Society

At the regular meeting Friday evening, March 18, the following officers were elected for the ensuing half year: President, Paul E. Bradley; Vice-President, C. A. Rush; Secretary, J. Paul Oren; Treasurer, W. R. Fitch; Sergeant-at-Arms, Theodore H. Eickhoff; Critics, J. T. Kennedy and Augustus F. Millott; and Representative

on the Intercollegiate Debating Council, Oscar Thompson.

A rising vote of thanks was given by the society to the outgoing President, Mr. Thompson, and the Secretary, Mr. Fitch, and to Mr. Pillow, for their earnest work in the interest of the society.

EXCHANGES

The Greek department at Dartmouth is preparing to give "Oedipus Tyrannus" sometime in May.

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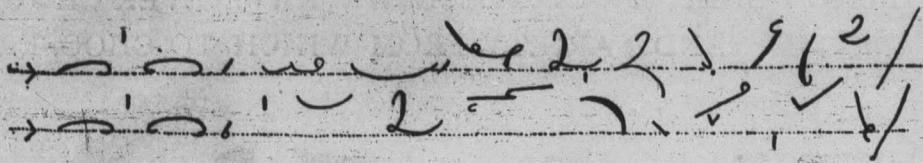
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Columbia—Wallace Eddinger

Wallace Eddinger, one of the most promising of the younger generation of leading men, will be seen at the Columbia next week in Henry B. Harris' production of Winchell Smith's dramatization of George Randolph Chester's popular novel, "The Making of Bobby Burnit." Mr. Eddinger's success as Howard Jeffries, Jr., in "The Third Degree," and as Todhunter Chase, in "The Next of Kin," earned for him the consideration of Mr. Harris for the part of Bobby Burnit. Mr. Eddinger's breezy style ought to make the character of Bobby Burnit an appealing one.

Chase's—Denman Thompson

Chase's next week will be honored by presenting "the grand old man of the American stage," Denman Thompson, the venerable player, whose unique rural comedy, "The Old Homestead," made almost as many hundreds of thousands of dollars as it made millions laugh during the three generations of its public performances. Mr. Thompson himself, with his own touring company, will appear in a revival of his original one-act comedy in which began the career of "Joshua Whitcomb," the part which gave the little masterpiece of humor and sentiment its original name, since perpetuated in the later and longer drama. The added attraction will be the famous American stock company stars.



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